

## Appendix 4

### Briefing: Third Sector and Partnership arrangements

#### Council responsibilities:

- **Strategic Executive** responsibility for the Third Sector agenda sits within the portfolio of **Cllr Debra Coupar**
- **Cllr Debra Coupar** is designated **Third Sector Lead** and **Third Sector Partnership Chair**
- **James Rogers**, Director of Communities and Environments is designated as **CLT Third Sector Lead Officer** and **Volunteering Champion**
- **Third Sector Liaison and Third Sector Partnership – Pat Fairfax**, Communities Team
- **Council Directorates** - close collaboration with and investment in over 1800 individual third sector organisations over the last year

#### Third Sector Partnership

The Third Sector Partnership (TSP) is part of the Best City partnership arrangements

- Chaired by an Elected Member, designated as TS Member Lead, currently Cllr Debra Coupar
- The Vice Chair is the Independent Chair of Third Sector Leeds, currently Chris Hollins
- It is attended by the Councils Corporate Leadership Team member designated as Third Sector Lead Officer, currently James Rogers, Director of Communities and Environments
- It is attended by Senior Officers from each of the Council Directorates, including the Chief Officer for Communities, plus University of Leeds, Leeds Beckett University, and the NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group. W Yorkshire Police are invited through Safer Leeds
- Third Sector Leeds sends up to 6 advocates, who are generally nominated by the TSL networks and forums. In addition there is an opportunity for up to 5 additional third sector colleagues to attend, invited to provide expertise and input on specific agendas /discussions.
- The Partnership meets every 2 months

The aim of the Third Sector Partnership is to create the conditions for a thriving third sector that is able to make maximum impact for the benefit of the city and the citizens of Leeds.

The Third Sector Partnership provides a forum for cross sector dialogue, steer, scrutiny and challenge on issues of policy, service development and partnership working which impact on the third sector.

Task Groups are established to progress specific agendas e.g. Promoting an Enterprising Sector; developing the Social Value Charter; Funding Support; Developing the Leeds Commissioning Code

The Partnership has developed a number of key policy documents and other tools to support its work, to deliver on the city ambitions and to respond to the operating climate and city priorities.

**Third Sector Ambition Statement**, which sets out on one page the importance of a thriving third sector to the City and describes what a thriving third sector looks like.

**The Compact for Leeds and the supporting Compact Standards:** this provides the primary framework to guide working relationships between the public and the third sector. In addition Codes of Practice have been developed around commissioning and working in partnership. Like the work on social value the code around commissioning will have resonance and influence beyond the third sector. It will inform and shape commissioning across all sectors.

**The Leeds Social Value Charter.** The Partnership initiated and drove the development of the Leeds Social Value Charter, which sets out our city ambitions around maximising social, economic and environmental benefits and securing maximum social return on investment. The Charter has resonance across all sectors.

## Analysis of investment in the third sector

The Council and the third sector have been working together to develop an appropriate template for analysis of Council investment in the sector. The analysis is made available annually.

Global investment figures:

£133.5m in 2016/2017 including £22.5m to the public sector spin out Aspire

£120.0m in 2015/2016

£112.0m in 2014/2015

£109.2m in 2013/2014

£108.6m in 2012/2013

£109.4m in 2011/2012

NHS partners have started to provide a summary of their TS investment.

Note: further details are available from [pat.fairfax@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:pat.fairfax@leeds.gov.uk)

## Best City Partnership arrangements and the third sector

The strategic boards and forums that make up the City Partnership arrangements include third sector representatives, e.g. the Health and Well Being Board and Children Leeds have third sector membership and have an interest in the third sector providing a route to engage with communities and customers. These Partnerships, usually through their public sector members, also commission the third sector to deliver services and activities that generate the outcomes they pursue.

These strategic partnerships and forums focus on their very specific agendas, **the sector is the contributor, not the focus.**

**The Leeds Third Sector Partnership** however is the **cross cutting and underpinning partnership**. It focuses on the third sector exclusively and **aims to ensure that the conditions are created that enable the third sector to maximise its contribution to the city wide agendas**, including focussing on investment in the support and development infrastructure that enables small groups and large organisations to set up, develop and thrive.

## Third Sector Leeds (TSL)

TSL is a strategic alliance of third sector organisations, which facilitates a voice for the sector in the City and aims to ensure that the Sector has the appropriate conditions and support in place to develop. TSL has an Independent Chair, currently Chris Hollins.

Executive support for TSL is provided by Voluntary Action Leeds (VAL) – who receive some financial support via LCC through the Infrastructure Support Fund and other grants/funding programmes and through traded income. TSL is led by the **TSL Leadership Group** comprised of elected representatives and nominees from the key Third Sector Thematic Networks/Forums in Leeds.

There is also a **TSL Goes Local** initiative which brings local TS groups together for focused discussion in localities on key city priorities and agendas.

**Doing Good Leeds** is the virtual hub for providing information to and about the Third Sector in Leeds (go to [www.doinggoodleeds.org.uk](http://www.doinggoodleeds.org.uk)) The DGL website is an excellent *go to* site and includes training opportunities, funding information and support, a thirds sector database, support around commissioning and links to volunteering opportunities and much more.

To find out more or for help with signposting to appropriate colleagues, contact:

Pat Fairfax [pat.fairfax@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:pat.fairfax@leeds.gov.uk)